

WAFCA Pilot Project

Centralized Resource Connection for Children At-Risk of Out-of-State Placement

Connection Session Presentation

Purpose: The purpose of the connection session is to narrow the placing agency's search to those who have capacity to serve the child and/or family. It should also produce as many viable options as possible, so that if one option does not work out, others can be tried, or so that a combination of services can be tried if a placement resource is unavailable.

The session is meant to be a dialogue and professional exchange, during which the most current and accurate information regarding the child, the child and family's circumstance, and the provider options are shared.

Presentation Outline: The members of the placing agency (caseworker, supervisor, CCS worker, foster care coordinator, etc.) should come prepared to provide the information below.

- 1) The reason treatment is needed (i.e., behavioral challenges; initial placement; lower level of care needed; higher level of care needed; placement disruption; something else).
- 2) What happened to the child.
 - a. What led to CPS/YJ intervention? If YJ, include any open/pending court needs.
 - b. Why was the child removed from the home (or why is placement deemed necessary)?
- 3) What it looks like when the child is successful.
 - a. What are the child's strengths?
 - b. Are there things in the environment that contribute to the child's success?
 - c. Are there characteristics of caregivers/others that align better with the child's needs/personality?
 - d. Is there a certain level of activity or a certain type of activity (area of interest) the child benefits from?
 - e. Is there a certain level of attention the child benefits from?
- 4) The primary presenting challenges for the child's caregivers.
 - a. What kinds of behaviors, attitudes, or concerns have contributed to the child needing treatment?
 - b. What interferes with the child being successful at home or elsewhere?
 - c. What have others said about why they struggle to work/live with the child?
- 5) The child's triggers, behavior when triggered, and supports/interventions that promote regulation.
- 6) The child's level of cognitive/developmental functioning.
- 7) The child's physical health needs.
- 8) The child's ability to reside with others (including pets).
- 9) Additional information regarding the child's support system/connections, including who the child is closest to.
- 10) Other treatment, services, or activities the child is connected to and/or has been successful in.
- 11) If placement occurs, the plan for the child following placement.
- 12) Anything else a person working with the child and/or family should know.
- 13) The level of urgency as it pertains to treatment (low – 30 days; medium – 2 weeks; high – 1 week).
- 14) The ideal service identified by the placing agency (i.e., intensive in-home services; therapy; supporting a relative placement; Level 2 FH; Level 3/4 FH; Level 5 FH; group home; QRTP); and 2nd preferred option.
- 15) Where the child would like to be served and/or placed and the viability of those options.